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No 132

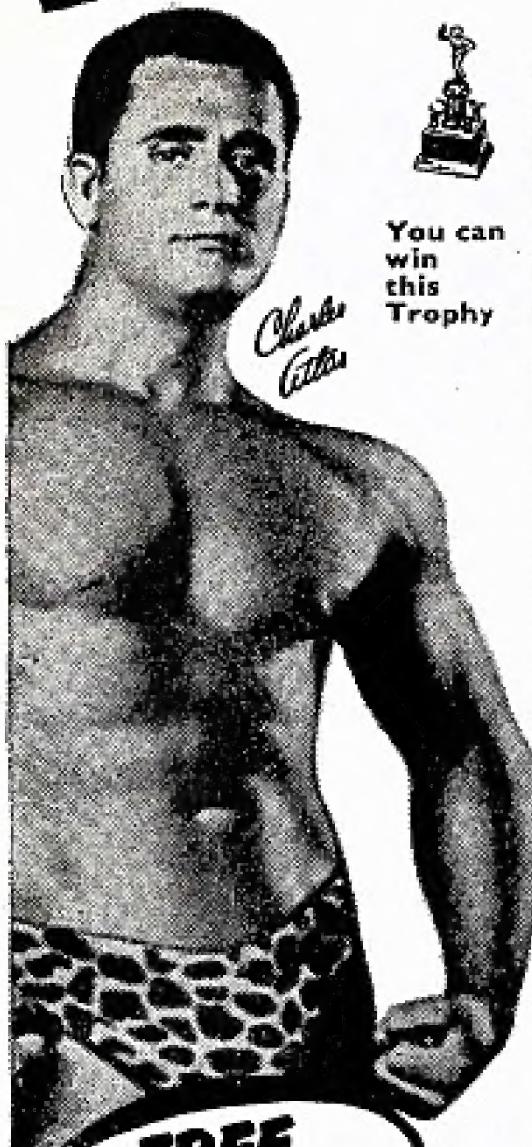
1/-

Rapid Fire



CHARLES
ATLAS
says—

I Trade NEW Bodies for OLD!



You can
win
this
Trophy



FREE
32-Page Book



Charles
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Charles
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DO YOU WANT...

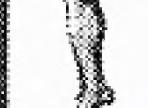
**1 MORE MUSCLE
BIGGER CHEST**

Dynamic-Tension develops
your chest without
strenuous exercises.



3 TIREDLESS LEGS

Dynamic-Tension makes your legs strong
and powerful.



2 BIG ARM MUSCLES

You'll see and feel
your arm muscles
BULGE out with
super power energy.

4 MORE WEIGHT

You'll put on pounds
in the right places.
Dynamic-Tension rebuilds you
inside and out.



WOULDN'T YOU like to "pick out" the kind of body you want—trade in skin and bones or flab and fat for powerful SOLID MUSCLE exactly where you need it? I have given thousands the kind of bodies they always wanted. Now, see what I can do for YOU in the coupon below. You can CHOOSE a muscular, broader chest . . . slimmer waistline and hips . . . new trip-hammer power for your arms and legs . . . more solid weight in the RIGHT PLACES. You name it, I'll show you how you can get it FAST—or you pay nothing!

...THEN POST THIS NOW...

CHARLES ATLAS, Dept. 17-B, Chitty St., London, W.I.

Dear Charles Atlas :
Here's the kind of
Body I'd like.

- MORE MUSCLE
BIGGER CHEST**
- BIG ARM
MUSCLES**
- TIREDLESS LEGS**
- MORE WEIGHT**

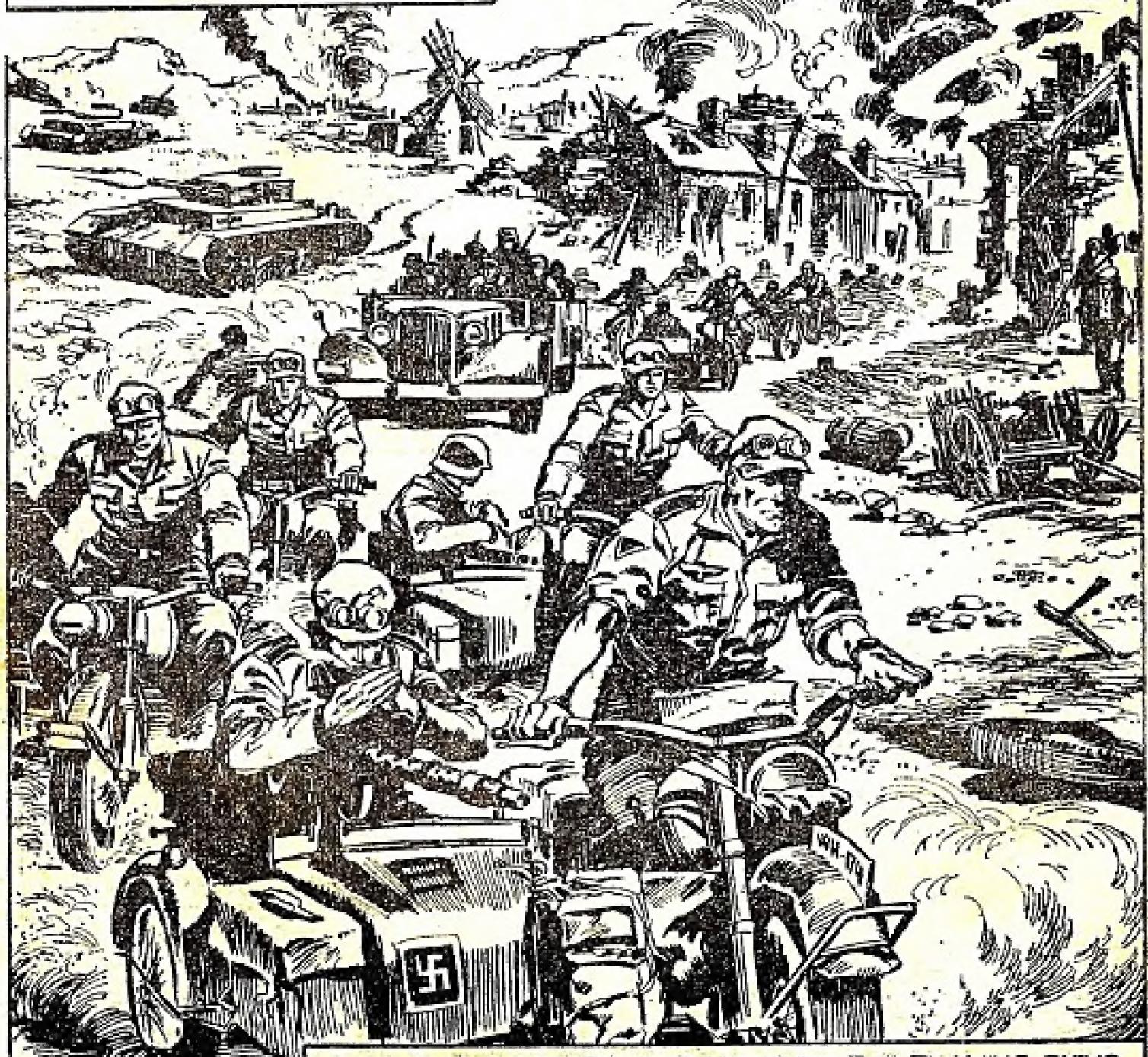
Send me absolutely FREE details of
your amazing 7-day TRIAL OFFER
and your famous book explaining
"Dynamic-Tension," crammed with
photographs and valuable advice. I
understand this book is mine and does
not obligate me in any way.

NAME..... AGE.....
(Block letters, Please)
ADDRESS

.....

RAPID FIRE

AFTER SIX UNEASY MONTHS OF "PHONEY WAR" THE GERMANS STRUCK. IGNORING THE NEUTRALITY OF OTHER LITTLE NATIONS, HITLER LAUNCHED HIS ARMIES THROUGH DEFENCELESS HOLLAND AND BELGIUM.



LEAVING THE INNOCENT COUNTRYSIDE IN FLAMING RUINS, THE GERMANS DROVE ALL BEFORE THEM, INCLUDING THE SMALL BUT GALLANT BRITISH EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

*Chapter 1.***TOTAL WAR**

THE BREAKTHROUGH OF THE GERMAN ARMY AT
SEDAH CAME AS A DEVASTATING SHOCK TO THE
ALLIED MILITARY COMMAND.



DESPERATELY, THE HARD-PRESSED BRITISH FORCE TRIED TO HOLD OUT
AGAINST THE PANZER HORDE OF THE GERMAN SIXTH ARMY -- BUT IT
WAS HOPELESS FROM THE START.



THE GERMAN PANZERS GROUND RELENTLESSLY AND VICTORIOUSLY ONWARDS ...

THE LATEST SITUATION REPORTS, SIR ...

THEY MEAN NOTHING, TONY. WE'RE MOVING OUT IN **TEN** MINUTES. ALL FORMATIONS ARE TO RETIRE TO PREPARED POSITIONS!

WHAT'S *LEFT* OF THE BLOOMIN' FORMATIONS?

THE HARASSED SOLDIERS OF THE DWINDLING B.E.F. FOUGHT DOGGEDLY, BUT THEY WERE OUTGUNNED AND OUTNUMBERED. THE ENEMY WAS EVERYWHERE.

LUMME! THEY'RE BEHIND US!

GET THAT BREW GROUP AWAY. I'LL DRAW THEIR FIRE -- AS LONG AS I CAN!

GOOD LUCK, SIR. SEE YOU IN BLIGHTY!

Rapid Fire

MANY BRITISH UNITS WERE ALMOST WIPEP OUT AND ORDERLY RETREAT WAS MADE MORE DIFFICULT BY THE FLEEING REFUGEES WHO BLOCKED THE ROADS ...

COME ON, PHIL, LET'S CUT ACROSS COUNTRY. IT'S PROBABLY QUICKER!

OUT OF THE WAY, THERE -- THIS IS HOPELESS!



CORPORAL PHIL LACEY AND HIS FRIEND, JACK STOKES, SET OFF TOGETHER ACROSS THE FIELDS. EVENTUALLY THEY CAME TO ANOTHER ROAD ... BUT THE WAR HAD PASSED THAT WAY, TOO.

POOR DEVILS! BUT IT'S A SPOT OF LUCK FOR US. WE CAN TAKE THEIR BIKES.

NOT SO FAST, PHIL! LOOK! JERRIES COMING!



THEY LAY IN HIDING AS THE GERMAN COLUMN APPROACHED -- ONLY TO GRIND TO A HALT AS TWO REFUGEES BLOCKED THE ROAD.



AT THAT MOMENT, A GERMAN STAFF-CAR ROARED UP AND A FURIOUS S.S. COLONEL CLIMBED TO HIS FEET.



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Rapid Fire



IT WAS ALL OVER IN SECONDS. JACK STOKES LAY IN A POOL OF HIS OWN BLOOD AND EVEN THE GERMAN TROOPS WERE DISGUSTED BY THE COLONEL'S COLD-BLOODEDNESS.



THE GERMAN COLUMN MOVED ON AGAIN. BY A STROKE OF GOOD FORTUNE, LACEY WAS PICKED UP BY A LONE BRITISH TRUCK AND EVENTUALLY REACHED DUNKIRK AND ENGLAND.



BUT LACEY WAS SILENT. HE COULD NOT FORGET WHAT HE HAD SEEN. ONE CHANCE NAME CONTINUED TO BEAT IN HIS HEAD LIKE A HAMMER BLOW...KLAUSS...KLAUSS... THE BRUTE WHO HAD WANTONLY MURDERED HIS FRIEND.

Chapter 2. The AGGRESSIVE SPIRIT

AFTER THE MIRACLE EVACUATION OF THE B.E.F. FROM DUNKIRK, ENGLAND WAITED AND PRAYED TO BE GIVEN TIME TO RE-ARM.



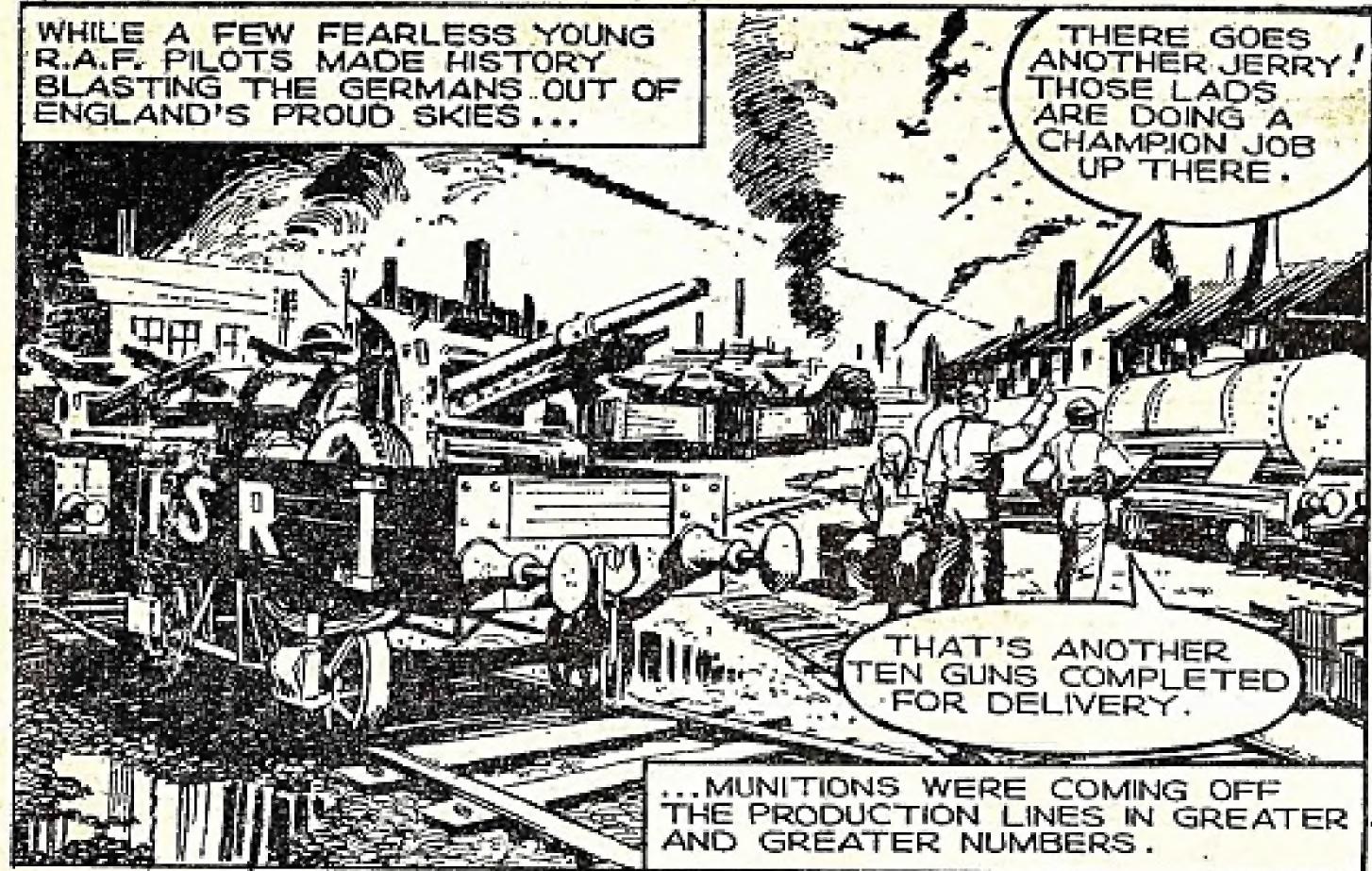
BUT INSTEAD OF INVASION, HITLER CHOSE TO BLAST LONDON AND OTHER MAJOR CITIES INTO SUBMISSION.

BANDITS, FIVE O'CLOCK... GOING IN NOW... TALLY-HO!

ACHTUNG! THESE SPITFires ARE DEVILS OUT OF HELL... AAAGH!

Rapid Fire

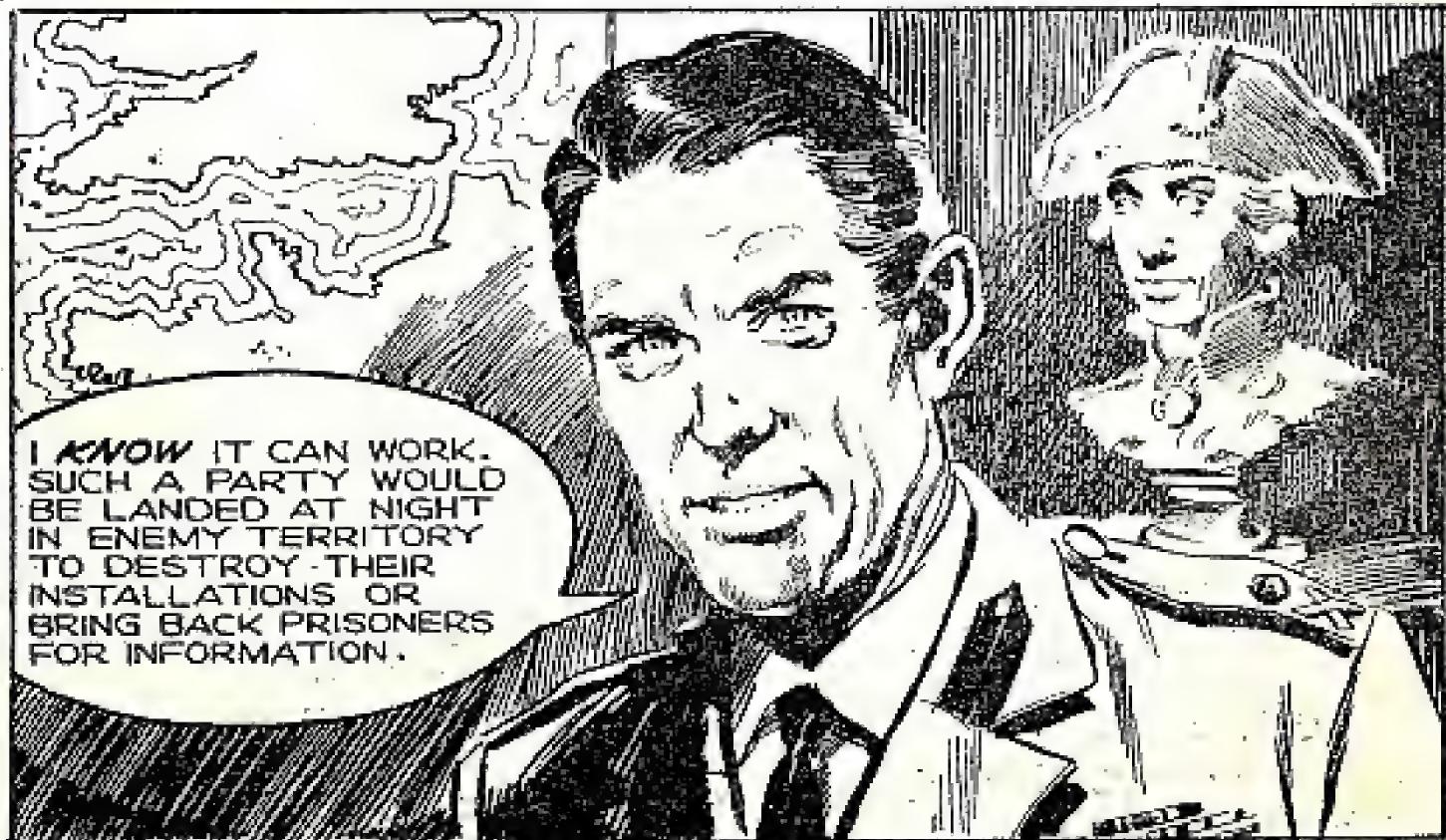
WHILE A FEW FEARLESS YOUNG R.A.F. PILOTS MADE HISTORY BLASTING THE GERMANS OUT OF ENGLAND'S PROUD SKIES ...



... MUNITIONS WERE COMING OFF THE PRODUCTION LINES IN GREATER AND GREATER NUMBERS.

BRITAIN WAS DEFENDING HERSELF. BUT WAS THIS ENOUGH? THE OLD MAXIM TEACHES THAT THE BEST FORM OF DEFENCE IS ATTACK.





Rapid Fire

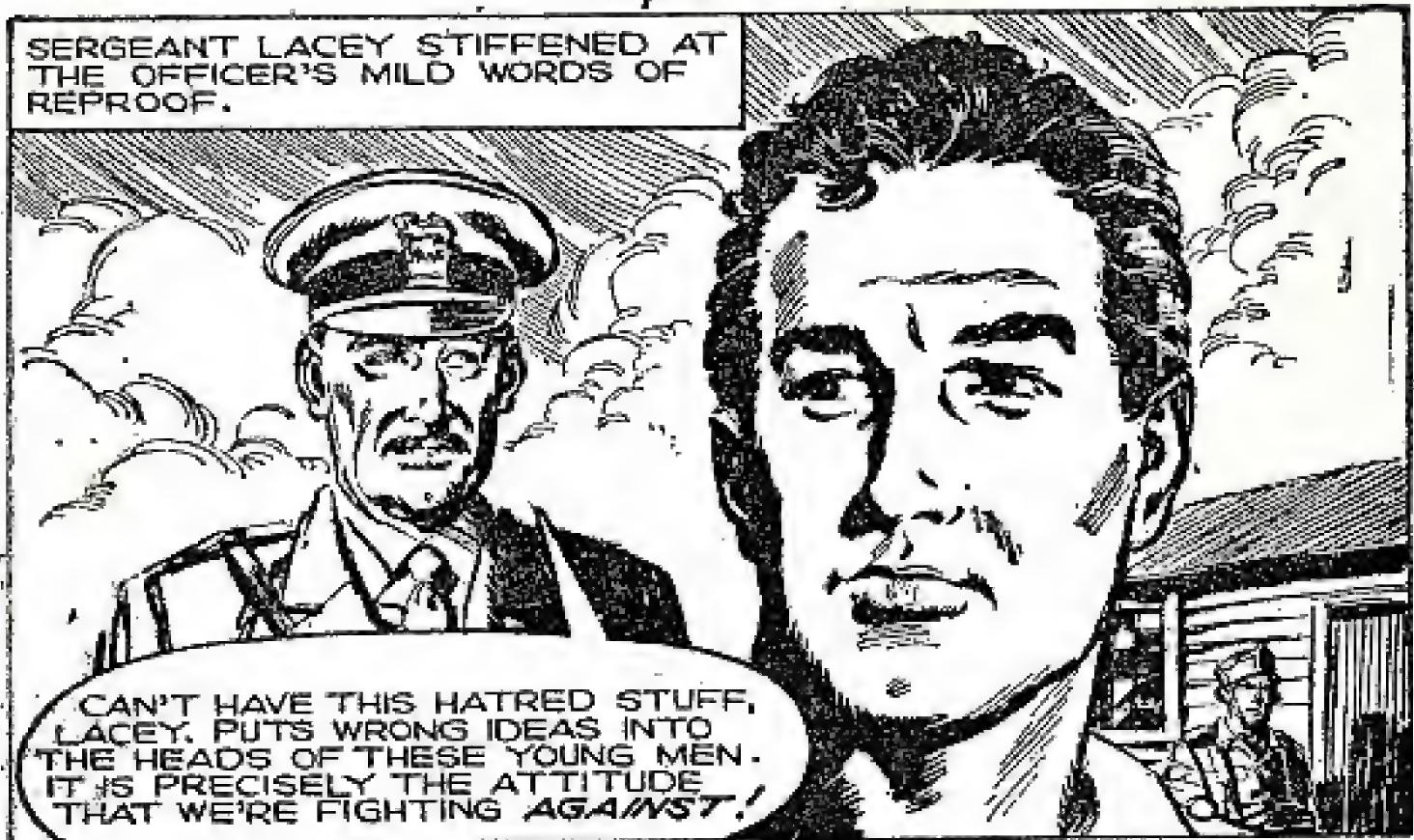


AND SO THE COMMANDOS WERE FORMED.
AMONG THE QUALITIES DEMANDED WERE:
"COURAGE, PHYSICAL ENDURANCE ... AND AN
AGGRESSIVE SPIRIT TOWARDS THE WAR".

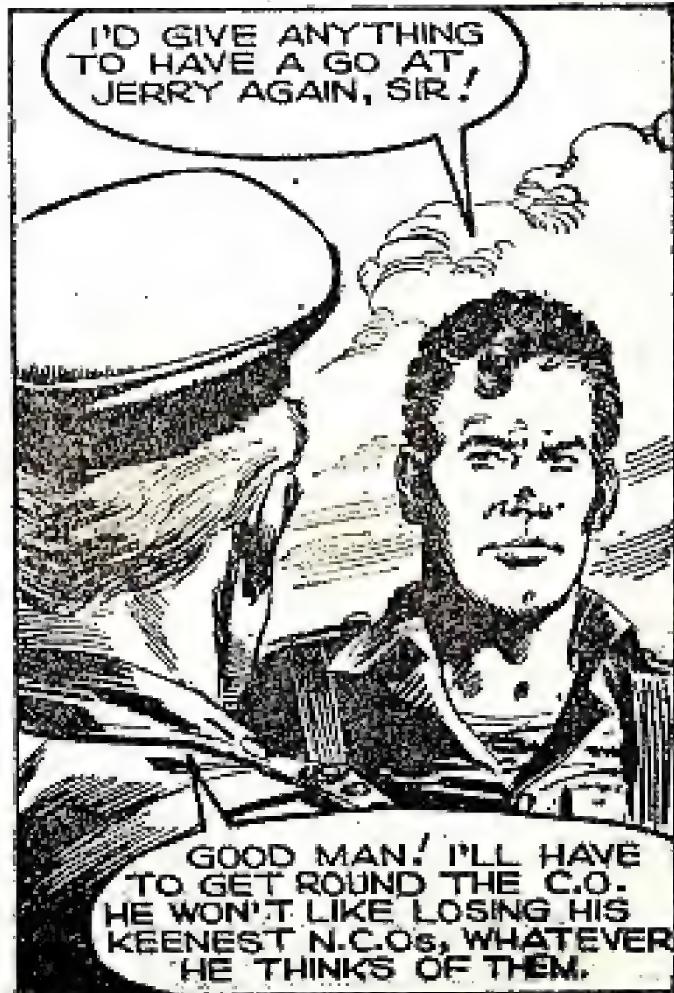
MONTHS PASSED. MANY OF THE B.E.F. VETERANS HAD BEEN PROMOTED AND WERE NOW INSTRUCTING THE RAW RECRUITS IN THE SAVAGE ART OF WAR.



SERGEANT LACEY STIFFENED AT THE OFFICER'S MILD WORDS OF REPROOF.



BUT THE SEEDS OF BITTERNESS WERE PLANTED DEEP IN LACEY'S HEART. LATER, HE TOLD HIS PLATOON COMMANDER ABOUT IT.



Rapid Fire

SERGEANT LACEY AND HIS PLATOON COMMANDER WERE RELEASED FROM THEIR TRAINING DUTIES TO JOIN A NEWLY-FORMED COMMANDO UNIT. THERE WERE MANY NEW THINGS TO LEARN.



WE WILL WORK IN CLOSE LIAISON WITH THE NAVY. WE WILL GET TO KNOW THEM AND RELY UPON THEM, FOR THESE OPERATIONS WILL ESSENTIALLY BE "COMBINED OPERATIONS".



AS COMMANDOS WE'VE GOT TO BE TOUGHER AND BE ABLE TO KEEP GOING LONGER THAN THE ORDINARY SOLDIER. IF ANY MAN DEFAULTS, IN DISCIPLINE OR IN ACTION, HE WILL BE SENT BACK TO HIS UNIT!

LACEY ESPECIALLY TOOK THESE WORDS TO HEART.

THIS IS ONE CHANCE I'M NOT GOING TO LOSE. I'LL BE TOUGHER AND BETTER THAN ALL OF THEM!



BUT LACEY DID NOT YET REALISE HOW MUCH TROUBLE HIS DETERMINATION WAS GOING TO CAUSE! ..

HE PUT EVERYTHING HE KNEW
INTO HIS TRAINING...

WELL DONE,
LACEY!

FIRST
ASHORE
AGAIN, LACEY.
GOOD SHOW!

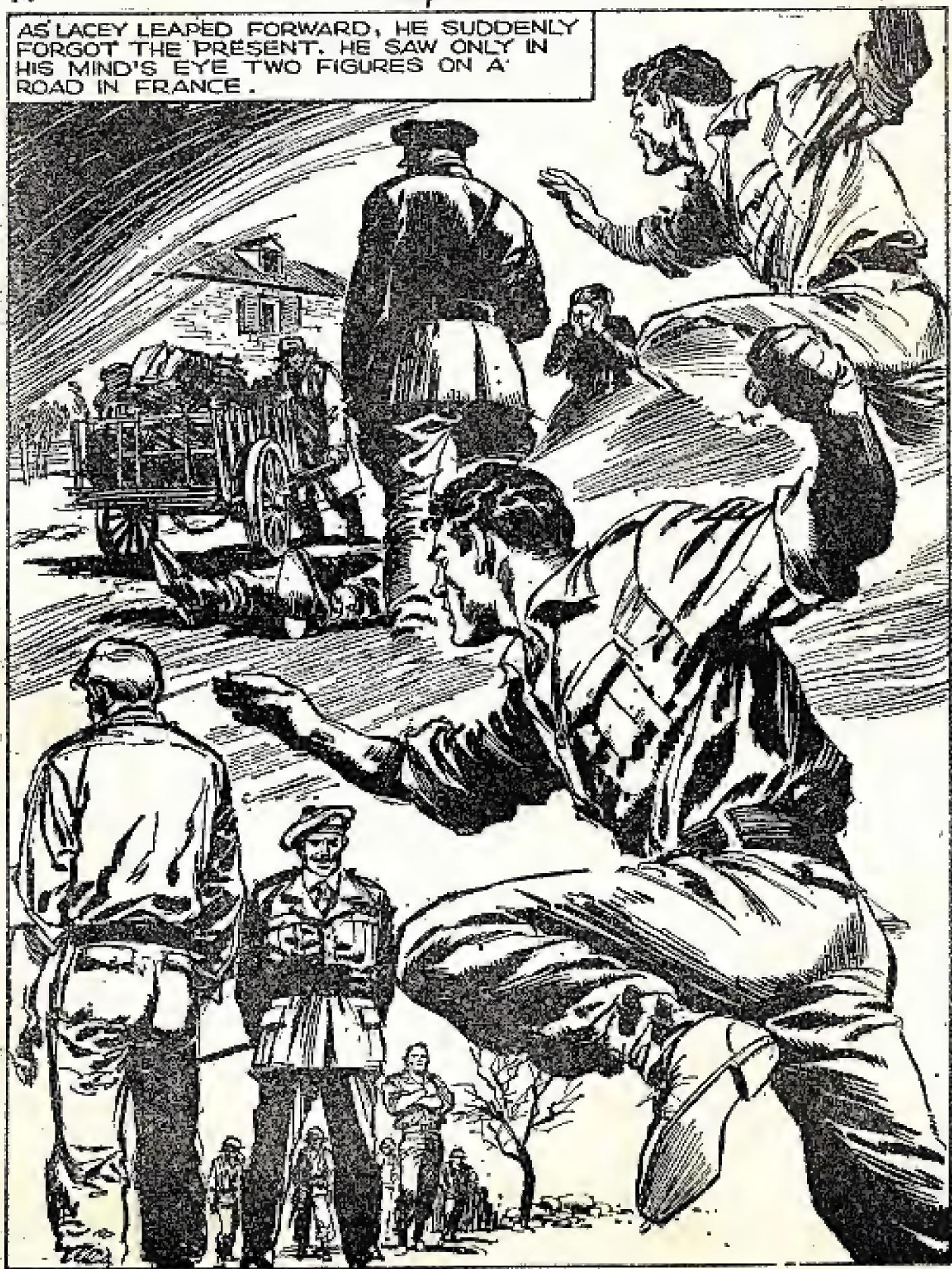
AN INCIDENT DURING UNARMED COMBAT TRAINING SHOULD HAVE
WARNED HIM, BUT IT DID NOT. LACEY WAS PAIRED OFF WITH HIS...
EX-PLATOON COMMANDER, LIEUTENANT HARDING.

NOW, WE'RE NOT
SOFTIES. DON'T PULL
YOUR PUNCHES TOO
MUCH. IMAGINE HE
REALLY IS THE
ENEMY ...

RIGHT, LACEY.
SEE IF YOU CAN
TAKE ME
UNAWARES.

Rapid Fire

AS LACEY LEAPED FORWARD, HE SUDDENLY FORGOT THE PRESENT. HE SAW ONLY IN HIS MIND'S EYE TWO FIGURES ON A ROAD IN FRANCE.





LACEY WAS PROVING HIMSELF A TOUGH AND EFFICIENT SOLDIER ~~
BUT THERE WAS A SINGLE-PURPOSENESS ABOUT HIM THAT
TROUBLED HIS SENIORS .



NOR DID THE N.C.O.S AND MEN FIND
LACEY AN EASY MAN TO UNDERSTAND.



SOON A SMALL RAID WAS PLANNED --
AND LACEY WAS ONE OF THOSE CHOSEN
TO TAKE PART.

A SMALL RECCE
PARTY, SERGEANT,
LANDING ON ONE OF
THE CHANNEL
ISLANDS ... BIT OF
A TRIAL TRIP,
REALLY...

THAT'S JUST
WHAT I'VE BEEN
WAITING TO HEAR,
SIR ... WHEN DO
WE GO ?

THE RAIDING PARTY SET OUT TWO DAYS
LATER. CAPTAIN SPLICE, SERGEANT LACEY
AND A HANDFUL OF MEN WERE TO LAND.

THE DESTROYER
WILL PICK US UP AT
NIGHTFALL. SHOULDN'T
BE MANY JERRIES
ABOUT, BUT WE DON'T
WANT TO LOOK
FOR TROUBLE.



THE TWO PARTIES SET OFF IN DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS, SEEKING EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO HARASS THE ENEMY'S LINES OF COMMUNICATION.



SERGEANT LACEY LED HIS PARTY TO WITHIN SIGHT OF THE BUILDING. IT APPEARED TO BE DESERTED.



LACEY AND HIS COMPANION FOUND IT EASY ENOUGH TO MAKE AN ENTRY, AND THEY SOON SAW THAT THE BUILDING WAS IN USE.



Rapid Fire



THE SIGHT OF THE FIELD-GREY UNIFORMS FILLED LACEY WITH AN UNCONTROLLABLE HATRED AND HIS REACTIONS WERE INSTANTANEOUS.

YOU FILTHY SWINE !



A MOMENT LATER, THE GERMANS WERE SPRAWLED LIFELESS ON THE FLOOR. WITHIN MINUTES, CAPTAIN SPLICE AND HIS PARTY ARRIVED ON THE SCENE.

WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON ? YOU FOOL LACEY... DID YOU HAVE TO SHOOT THEM ?

I'M SORRY, SIR ! I DIDN'T KNOW THEY WERE UNARMED .



YOU COULD HAVE GUessed THEY WERE UNARMED -- LOOK AT THE RIFLES STILL IN THE RACKS HERE . I DON'T DOUBT YOUR COURAGE, LACEY --- BUT I EXPECT DISCIPLINED TEAM-WORK, NOT PERSONAL ACTS OF REVENGE ... NOW LET'S GET GOING .

YESSIR !



THE PARTY WITHDREW SAFELY TO THE BEACH, WHERE THEY WERE TAKEN TO THE WAITING WARSHIP .

*Chapter 3.***BOFFIN PARTY**

BY 1943, R.A.F. BOMBER COMMAND WERE BEGINNING TO POUND GERMANY'S INDUSTRIAL AREAS WITH AN EVER-INCREASING WEIGHT OF HIGH EXPLOSIVES AND INCENDIARIES.



BUT THEY WERE HAZARDOUS OPERATIONS AND MANY AIRCRAFT AND THEIR CREWS FAILED TO RETURN.

FROM THE COASTS OF OCCUPIED EUROPE ALL THE WAY TO THEIR TARGETS, THE BOMBERS HAD TO RUN A TERRIFYING GAUNTLET OF FLAK AND FIGHTER ATTACKS.



BANDITS SIGHTED!
THEY'RE ON
TO US
AGAIN.

THE CASUALTIES BECAME HEAVIER AND HEAVIER AS RAID AFTER RAID WAS INTERCEPTED BY FAST, HEAVILY-ARMED FIGHTERS.



THE CREWS THAT RETURNED HAD GRIM TALES TO TELL THEIR INTERROGATING OFFICERS.

IT WAS A MASSACRE!
ANYBODY WOULD THINK THEY **KNEW** WE WERE COMING.

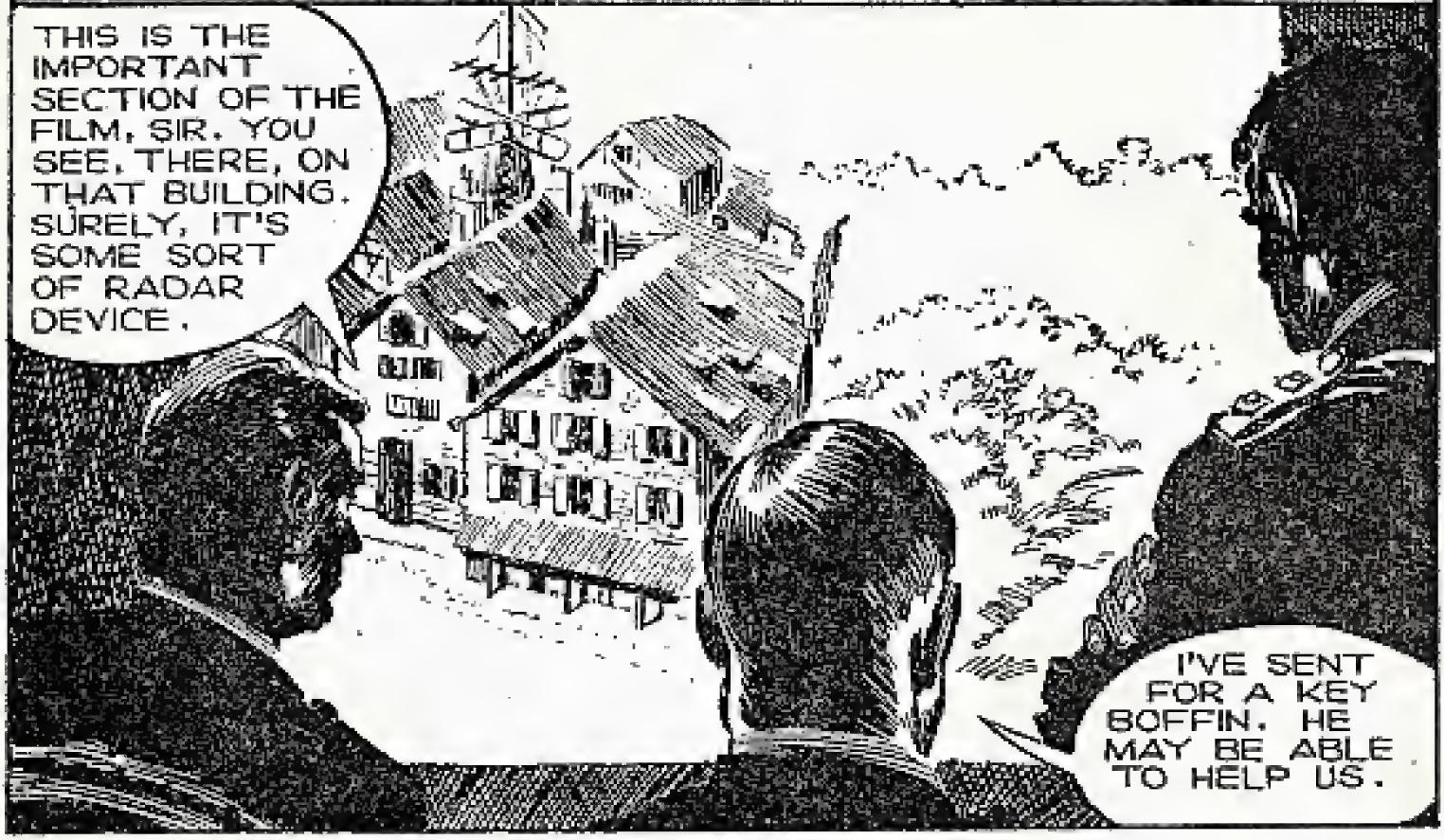
THIS CAN'T GO ON. DO YOU THINK THERE'S A SECURITY LEAK?

Rapid Fire

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IT SEEMED THAT THE GERMAN FIGHTERS WERE ALWAYS ALERTED, READY TO INTERCEPT EACH BOMBER FORMATION. THEN... RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT MADE A DRAMATIC DISCOVERY.

THIS IS THE IMPORTANT SECTION OF THE FILM, SIR. YOU SEE, THERE, ON THAT BUILDING. SURELY, IT'S SOME SORT OF RADAR DEVICE.



I'VE SENT FOR A KEY BOFFIN. HE MAY BE ABLE TO HELP US.

THE SCIENTIST, PROFESSOR PRATNEY WAS AS MYSTIFIED AS THE OTHERS.



IF ONLY I COULD JUST LOOK AT IT. ANY CHANCE OF BEING PARACHUTED IN? I'M GAME FOR A TRY.

IMPOSSIBLE! NEVER GET AWAY AGAIN WITH THE INFORMATION.

I SAY, WHAT ABOUT THOSE COMMANDOS! SOUNDS LIKE THEIR SORT OF JOB.

SOON IT WAS ARRANGED TO TAKE PROFESSOR PRATNEY OVER UNDER THE COVER OF A COMMANDO FORCE.

WE'LL SUPPLY A SUBMARINE TO TAKE AND COLLECT PRATNEY. THE COMMANDOS WILL GO IN MOTOR LAUNCHES.

PROFESSOR PRATNEY,
WE'D BETTER PUT
YOU IN SOME SORT
OF UNIFORM.

I'M A
PRIVATE IN THE
HOME GUARD. I'LL
WEAR THAT--AND
BE PROUD OF IT.

THE RAID MUST
BE SMALL. IT IS
ESSENTIAL WE DO NOT
STIR UP A HORNET'S
NEST !



THE MEN OF THE RAIDING PARTY WERE SPECIALLY SELECTED --
THE TOUGHEST OF A TOUGH BREED.



Rapid Fire

YOU'RE TOO QUICK ON THE TRIGGER AT THE SIGHT OF A GERMAN, SERGEANT. THIS TIME, WE'RE OUT TO AVOID TROUBLE. D'YOU THINK YOU CAN RESTRAIN YOURSELF?



HERE FOLLOWED
A WEEK OF
INTENSIVE TRAINING
ON A SELECTED
ENGLISH FORESHORE.
THEN CAME THE
ACTUAL BRIEFING.

HERE'S THE MODEL
OF OUR OBJECTIVE.
PROFESSOR PRATNEY
WANTS TO HAVE A LOOK
AT IT-- **AT VERY
CLOSE QUARTERS!**
**WE'RE GOING TO
HELP HIM.**



I MAY NEED ABOUT
THREE OR FOUR HOURS...
THEN YOU CAN SMASH
IT UP IF YOU LIKE, AND
ENJOY YOURSELVES.

HE'S A
CARD, THIS
BOFFIN !



MAJOR SPLICE CARRIED ON...

WE LAND BEFORE
DAWN, DEAL WITH
THE GUARDS
AND LET THE
PROFESSOR GET
ON WITH IT.
NOW LISTEN
CAREFULLY ...



THE COMMANDO LEADER
BEGAN TO DISCUSS THE
RAID IN DETAIL.

Rapid Fire

AT THE SUDDEN MENTION OF THE NAME "KLAUSS", LACEY'S HEART MISSED A BEAT.



NEXT DAY WAS A TIME OF INTENSE BUT CAREFUL PREPARATION. SERGEANT LACEY WAS SITTING BY HIMSELF WHEN ANOTHER SERGEANT LOOKED OVER HIS SHOULDER.



Rapid Fire

SOON THE MEN WERE PARADED ON THE QUAYSIDE FOR EMBARKATION IN THEIR MOTOR-LAUNCHES. MAJOR SPLICE GAVE HIS FINAL ORDERS.

OUR 'PASSENGER' HAS GONE IN THE SUBMARINE. WE RENDEZVOUS WITH HIM AT O-FOUR-THIRTY HOURS.



MISTER BRIGGS, YOU'RE IN COMMAND OF THE RIGHT-FLANK COVER PARTY... AND YOU, SERGEANT LACEY, THE OTHER - ON THE PANZER DIVISION SIDE. YOU'LL HAVE THE FARDEST TO GO.



AN HOUR LATER, AS THE BOATS WERE HEADING FOR THE BELGIAN COAST. THERE CAME THE FIRST ALARM...

ENEMY AIRCRAFT COMING UP ASTERN, SIR!

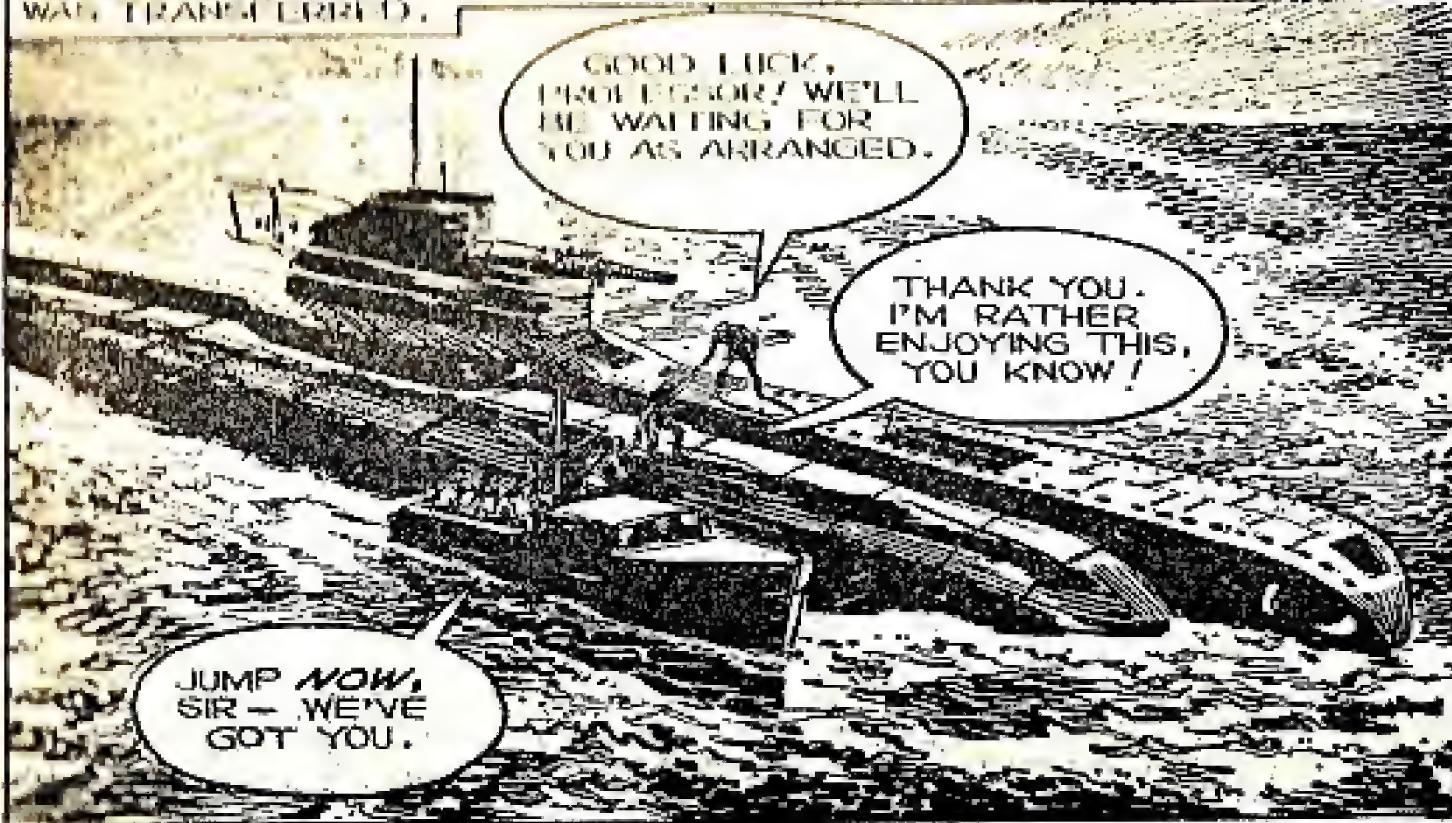


KEEP DOWN, MEN, AND DON'T MOVE!

UNTIL THE PLANE PASSED BY
THE SMALL FLOTILLA
WITHOUT DEVIATING FROM
ITS COURSE TO INVESTIGATE.



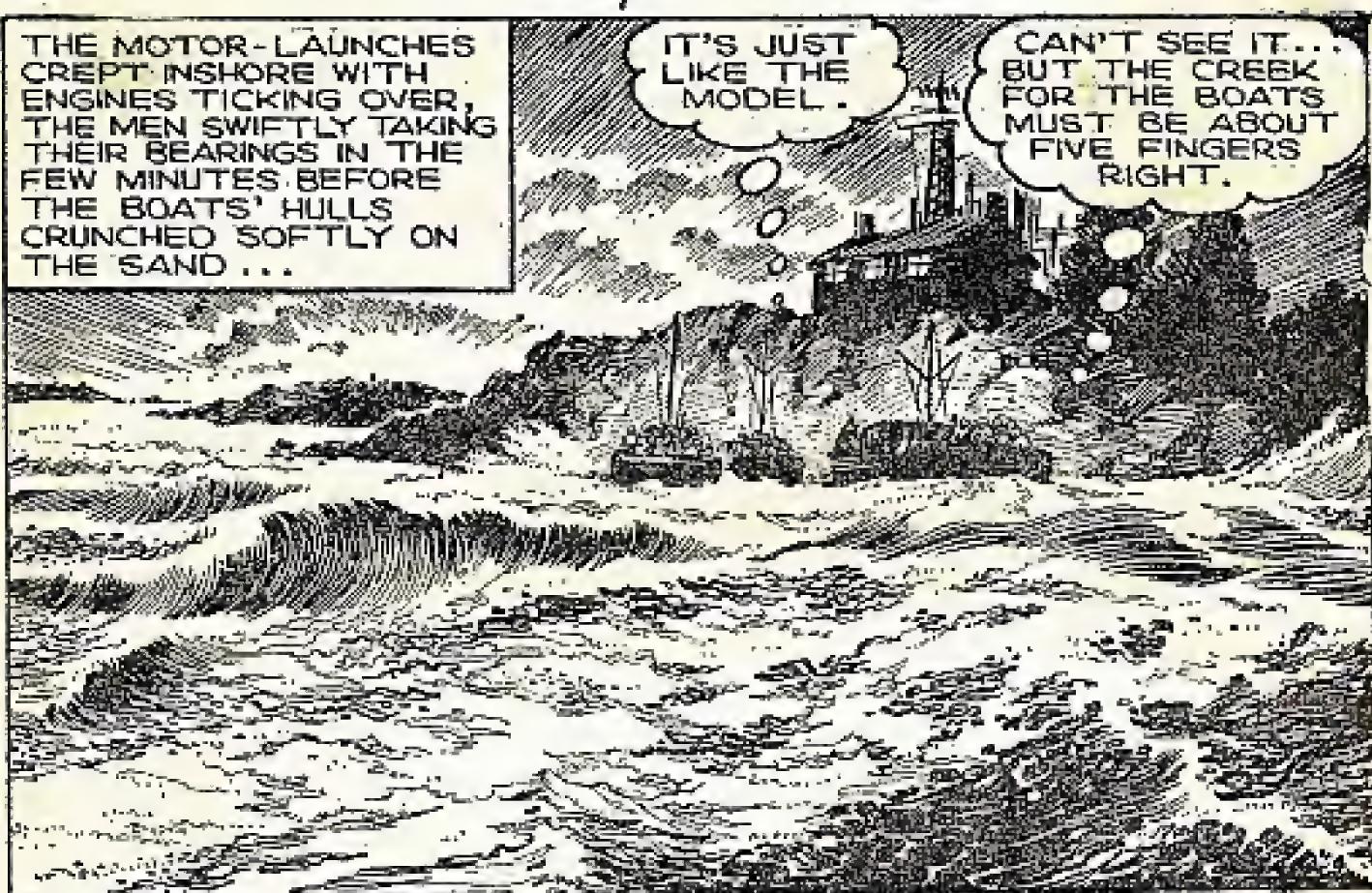
WITHOUT FURTHER INCIDENT, THE LAUNCHES REACHED THEIR
MEETING POINT WITH THE SUBMARINE AND PROFESSOR PRATNEY
WAS TRANSLATED.



THE MOTOR-LAUNCHES CRESTED INSHORE WITH ENGINES TICKING OVER, THE MEN SWIFTLY TAKING THEIR BEARINGS IN THE FEW MINUTES BEFORE THE BOATS' HULLS CRUNCHED SOFTLY ON THE SAND ...

IT'S JUST LIKE THE MODEL.

CAN'T SEE IT... BUT THE CREEK FOR THE BOATS MUST BE ABOUT FIVE FINGERS RIGHT.



LEAVING THE CREWS AND A SMALL GUARD BY THE LAUNCHES, THE COMMANDOS SWARMED ASHORE AND BEGAN TO CLIMB THE CLIFF-FACE.

THE PROFESSOR LOOKS MORE OF A CARD THAN EVER—IN THAT OLD 'HOME GUARD' UNIFORM OF HIS!



WHILE THE OTHER PARTIES WENT OFF IN THEIR VARIOUS DIRECTIONS, PROFESSOR PRATNEY'S PARTY GOT HIM WELL UNDER COVER - AND THE MAJOR TOOK A CAREFUL LOOK ROUND.



Rapid Fire

SO FAR, EVERYTHING HAD GONE TO TIME. EVEN THE GERMAN GUARD, AS MAJOR SPLICE NOTED, WERE PUNCTUAL TO THE MINUTE IN HANDING OVER TO THEIR DAY RELIEF.



CHECKING HIS WATCH, MAJOR SPLICE GAVE A PRE-ARRANGED BIRD CALL... AND SEVERAL KHAKI FIGURES BEGAN TO CREEP UP BEHIND THEIR UNSUSPECTING QUARRIES.



A STEP ON THE GRAVEL HERE . . . A RUSTLE OF BUSHES THERE . . .
BUT THE SENTRIES NEVER HAD TIME TO SOUND THE ALARM . . .



Rapid Fire

MEANWHILE, OTHERS RAN INTO THE HOUSE AND DEALT WITH THE OCCUPANTS IN THE SAME RUTHLESS FASHION! A SIGNAL WAS GIVEN AND PROFESSOR PRATNEY WAS HURRIED IN.

WELL DONE! IT'S GONE LIKE A DREAM SO FAR. NOW, HURRY UP, PRATNEY. EVERY SECOND IS VITAL FROM NOW ON.



THE CONTROL ROOM OF THE RADAR SITE WAS THE PROFESSOR'S IMMEDIATE INTEREST.

IN HERE, SIR!

AT LAST WE'LL SEE WHAT ALL THIS IS ABOUT.

IT'S ALL YOURS NOW, PRATNEY.



THE SCIENTIST SEATED HIMSELF EAGERLY BEFORE THE APPARATUS THAT HAD BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN CAUSING SO MUCH HAVOC IN THE R.A.F. BOMBER FLEETS.



MEANWHILE, SERGEANT LACEY HAD PLACED HIS MEN IN DEFENSIVE POSITIONS WELL FORWARD OF THE HOUSE .

LET'S HOPE THEY STAY THERE, MATE !

BEYOND THAT RIDGE - THAT'S WHERE JERRY'S PANZER DIV. IS SUPPOSED TO BE .





MOVING AT A COMMANDO DOG-TROT, THE SERGEANT MADE GROUND SWIFTLY YET CAUTIOUSLY. HE FELT IN HIS POCKET FOR HIS TELESCOPIC LENS.

SHOULDN'T BE MUCH FARTHER NOW.



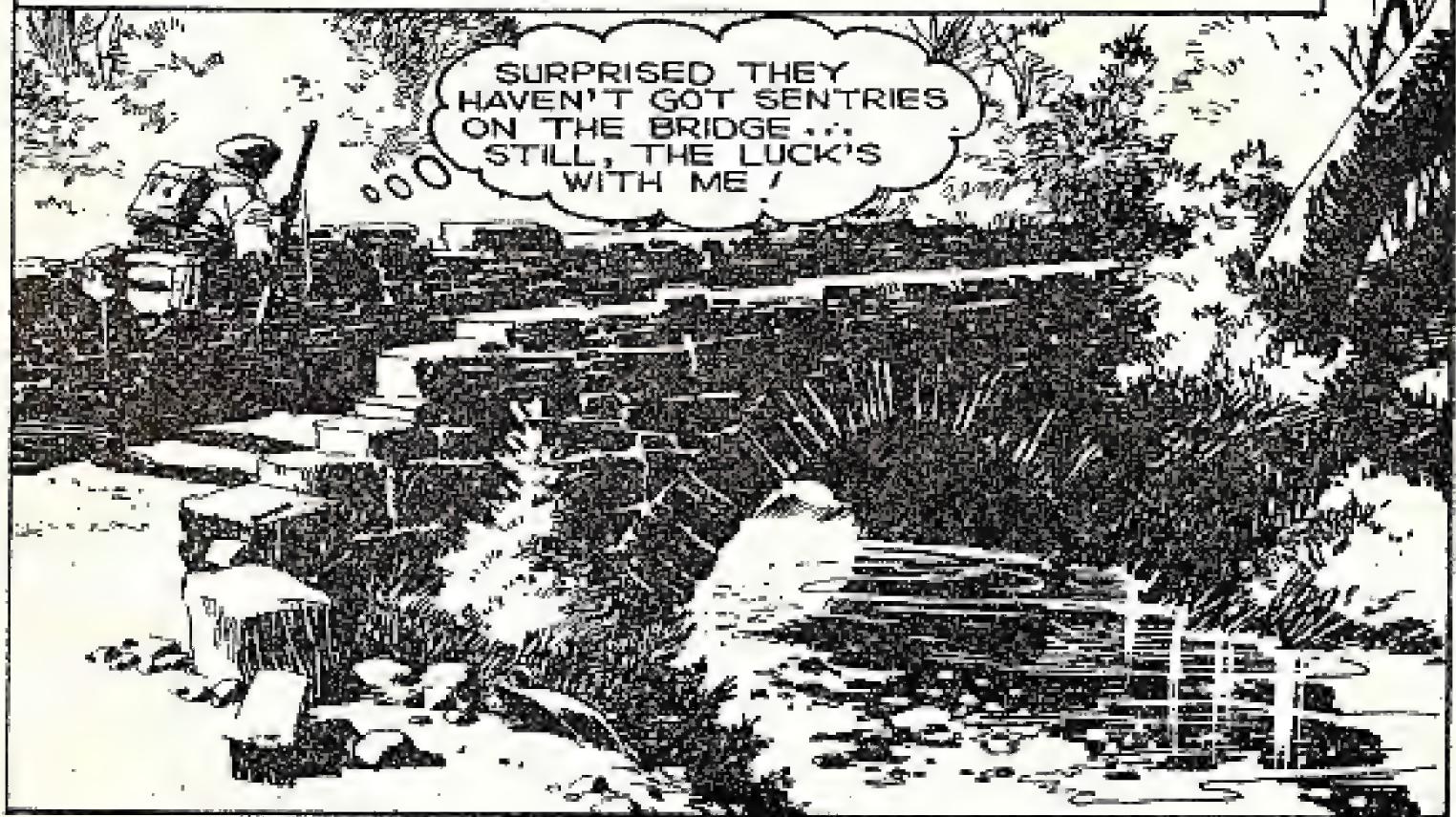
DESPITE HIS SINGLE-MINDED HATRED OF THE GERMAN, KLAUSS, LACEY HAD NO INTENTION OF ALERTING THE GERMAN DIVISION.

IT WAS A MAD ENTERPRISE -- BUT LACEY WAS TEMPORARILY MAD. HE HAD GONE ABOUT THREE MILES, WHEN HE CAME TO A BRIDGE ACROSS A RIVER. IMMEDIATELY, HIS SOLDIER'S INSTINCT WARNED HIM TO TAKE EXTRA CARE.

SEEMS TO BE NO ONE ABOUT...



LACEY LOOKED FOR SENTRIES, BUT SAW NONE. HE SPUNTED DOWN TO THE BRIDGE . . . AND CROSSED IN THE SHADOW OF ONE OF THE PARAPETS.



BUT THE SENTRIES **WERE** THERE!
GENERAL KLAUSS HAD LEARNED A
FEW BITTER LESSONS ON THE RUSSIAN
FRONT AND DID NOT LEAVE HIS
SENTRIES IN FULL VIEW.



Rapid Fire

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EVEN HIS COMMANDO TRAINING DID NOT TELL LACEY THAT HE, THE HUNTER, WAS BEING STALKED.



AS IF IN ANSWER TO LACEY'S SILENT QUESTION, A STAFF CAR DREW UP CLOSE TO A HUT--AND AN OFFICER CLIMBED OUT. THE SERGEANT GAVE A HISS OF EXCITEMENT.



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Rapid Fire

HIS KNUCKLES GLEAMED WHITELY AS HE RAISED THE RIFLE QUICKLY TO HIS SHOULDER ...



... AND ALL HIS SENSES WERE CONCENTRATED ON THE HATED FIGURE FRAMED IN HIS SIGHTS.



THE ARROGANT, MURDERING BRUTE! NOW I'VE GOT HIM! ONE SHOT... JUST ONE SHOT IS ALL I NEED!

HE TOOK FIRST PRESSURE ON THE TRIGGER-- AND THEN ...





STILL DAZED, SERGEANT LACEY WAS DRAGGED BEFORE THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER. AS THE INTERROGATION WENT ON HE KNEW HE COULD EXPECT NO MERCY FROM THE THIN-LIPPED GERMAN.



LACEY KNEW, THEN, WHAT A TERRIBLE THING HE HAD DONE. HE MUST NOT TALK --- **HE MUST NOT!**



FOR THE SAKE OF HIS OWN PERSONAL REVENGE, LACEY HAD JEOPARDISED THE WHOLE VITAL MISSION.

GET IN THERE -- AND KEEP QUIET! YOU WILL BE WANTED LATER!



LACEY FELT HIS HEAD WAS BURSTING WITH THE HORROR OF HIS SITUATION. OUTSIDE THE HUT HE COULD HEAR POWERFUL ENGINES ROARING INTO LIFE.

WHAT A FOOL I'VE BEEN! THE PROFESSOR WILL NEVER GET HIS JOB DONE NOW. HE AND THE OTHERS WILL BE KILLED!



Rapid Fire

ALERT NOW, HE TENSED AS A GUARD FUMBLED AT THE DOOR. MOVING LIGHTNING-FAST, LACEY SPRANG BEHIND THE OPENING DOOR. THEN ...

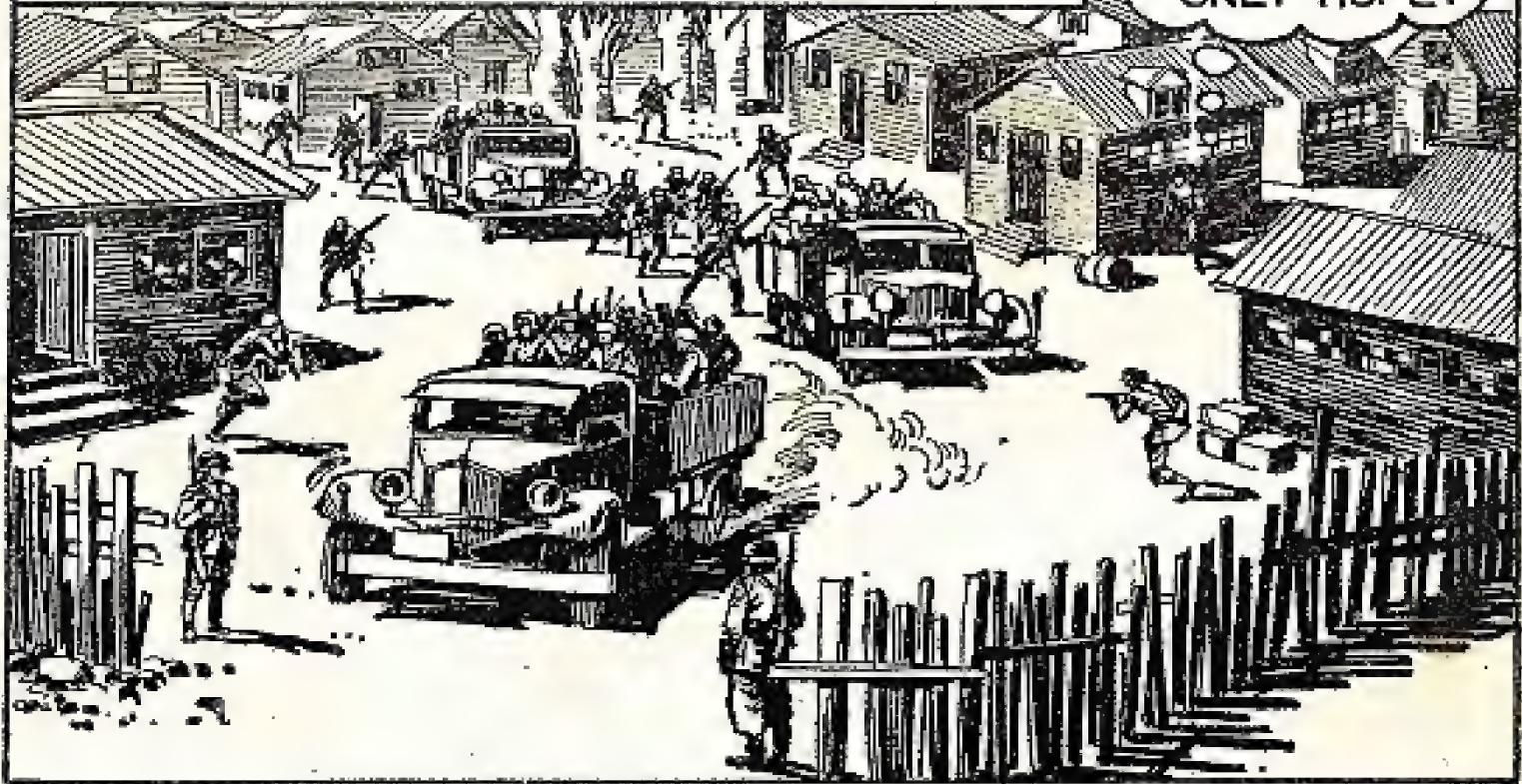


THE BURLY GERMAN CRUMPLED TO THE FLOOR WITHOUT ANOTHER SOUND AND LACEY SNATCHED UP THE MAN'S RIFLE AND HIS TWO STICK GRENADES. THE WINDOW AT THE BACK WAS BARRED -- BUT ONLY WITH WOOD.



NEXT MOMENT, THE SERGEANT WAS CROUCHING IN THE SHADOWS OF THE HUT WALL, HIS BREAK-OUT UNNOTICED IN THE GENERAL CONFUSION.

IN ALL THIS RACKET, I MIGHT BE ABLE TO GET AWAY! IT'S MY ONLY HOPE!



SUDDENLY, AS HE CAME TO A CLEARING BETWEEN THE HUTS, LACEY STOPPED ... AND FROZE INTO THE SHADOWS.



SUDDENLY LACEY'S HATRED WELLED UP IN HIM AGAIN. FATE HAD GIVEN HIM ANOTHER CHANCE!

Rapid Fire

INSTINCTIVELY, HE BROUGHT THE GERMAN RIFLE UP TO THE AIM...



...AND THEN CHECKED. AFTER ALL, WHAT WAS TAKING KLAUSS' LIFE AGAINST SAVING THOSE OF HIS COMRADES?

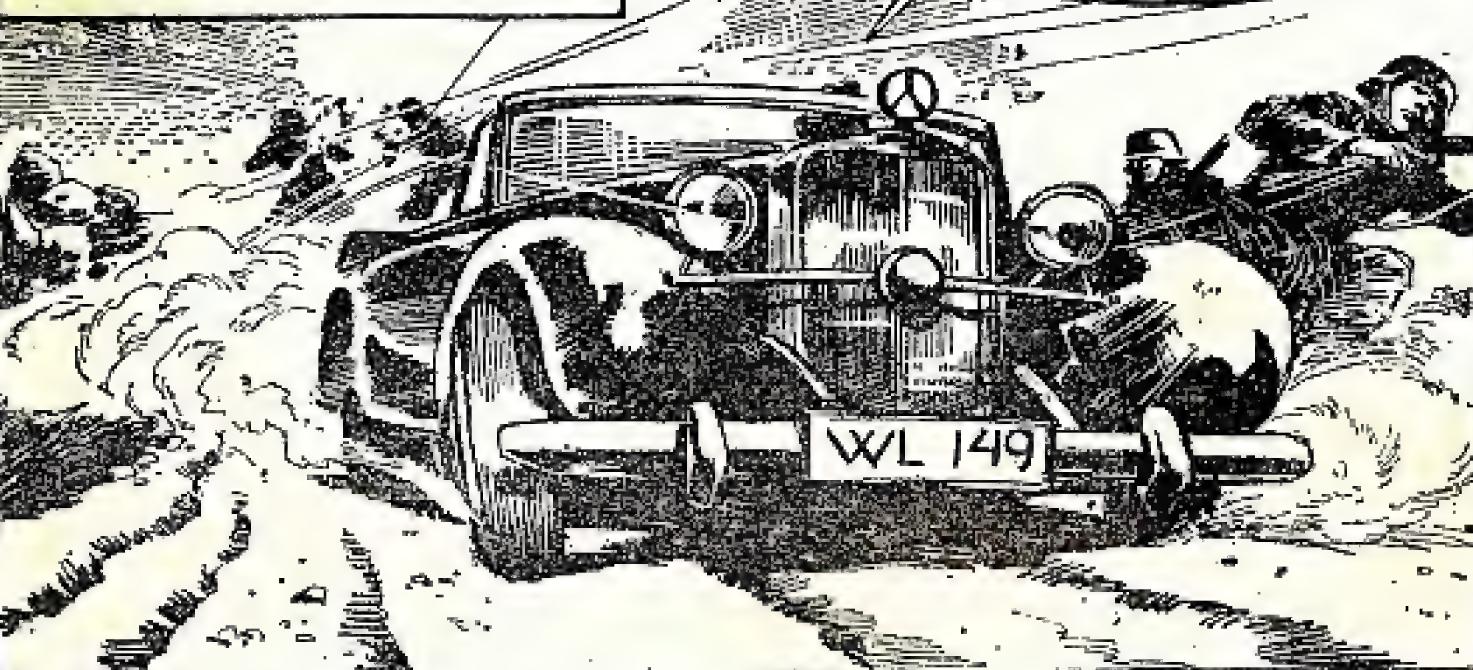
SUDDENLY, HE HAD A MUCH BETTER IDEA. THE DRIVER WAS OUT OF THE CAR AND THE ENGINE WAS RUNNING. LACEY SPRANG OUT OF THE SHADOWS.



DESPERATELY LACEY LET IN THE CLUTCH -- AND SLAMMED HIS FOOT ON THE ACCELERATOR ...

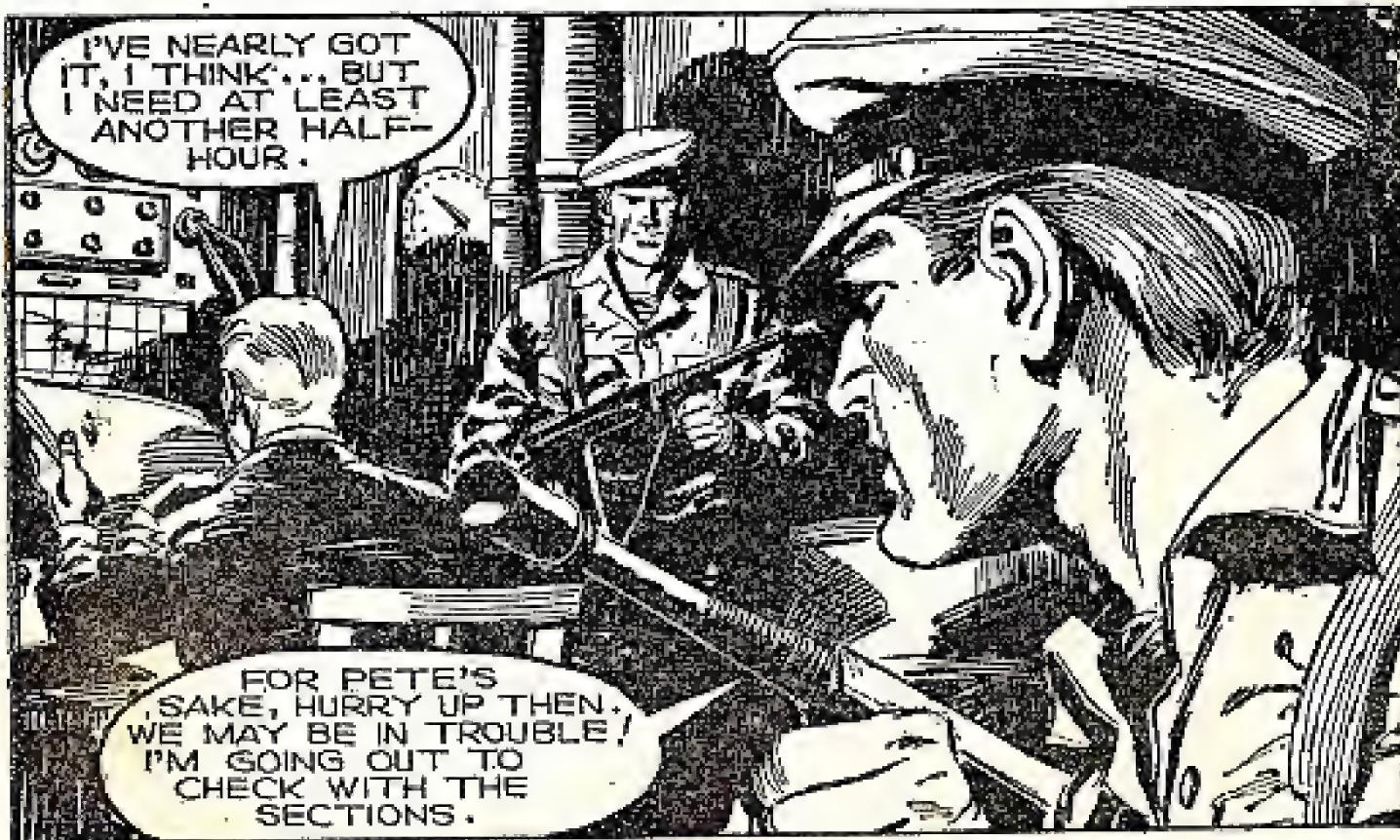
THE POWERFUL ENGINE RESPONDING TO THE TOUCH LIKE A RACEHORSE TO THE SPUR, THE CAR ROCKETED FORWARD ...

IT'S A PITY -- BUT I DON'T THINK WE'LL SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN, GENERAL!

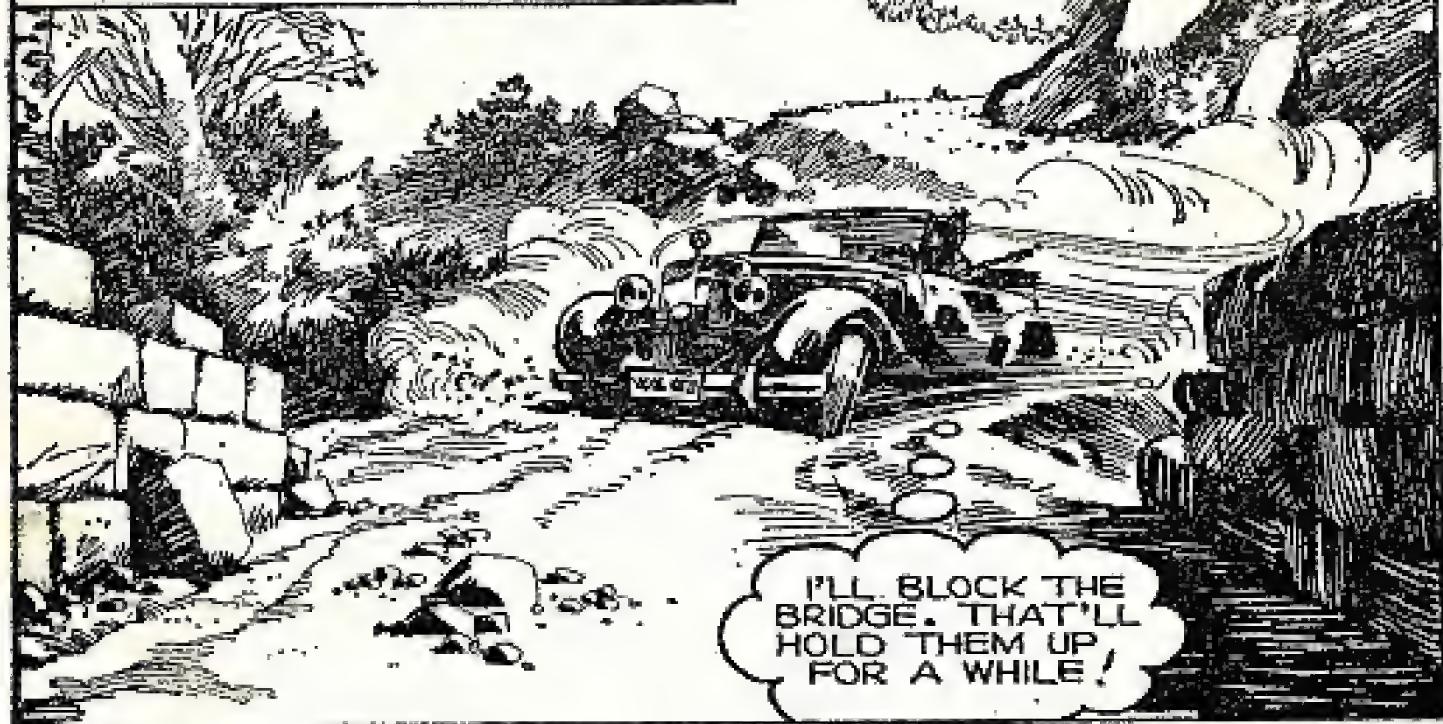


Chapter 4. BATTLE of the BRIDGE

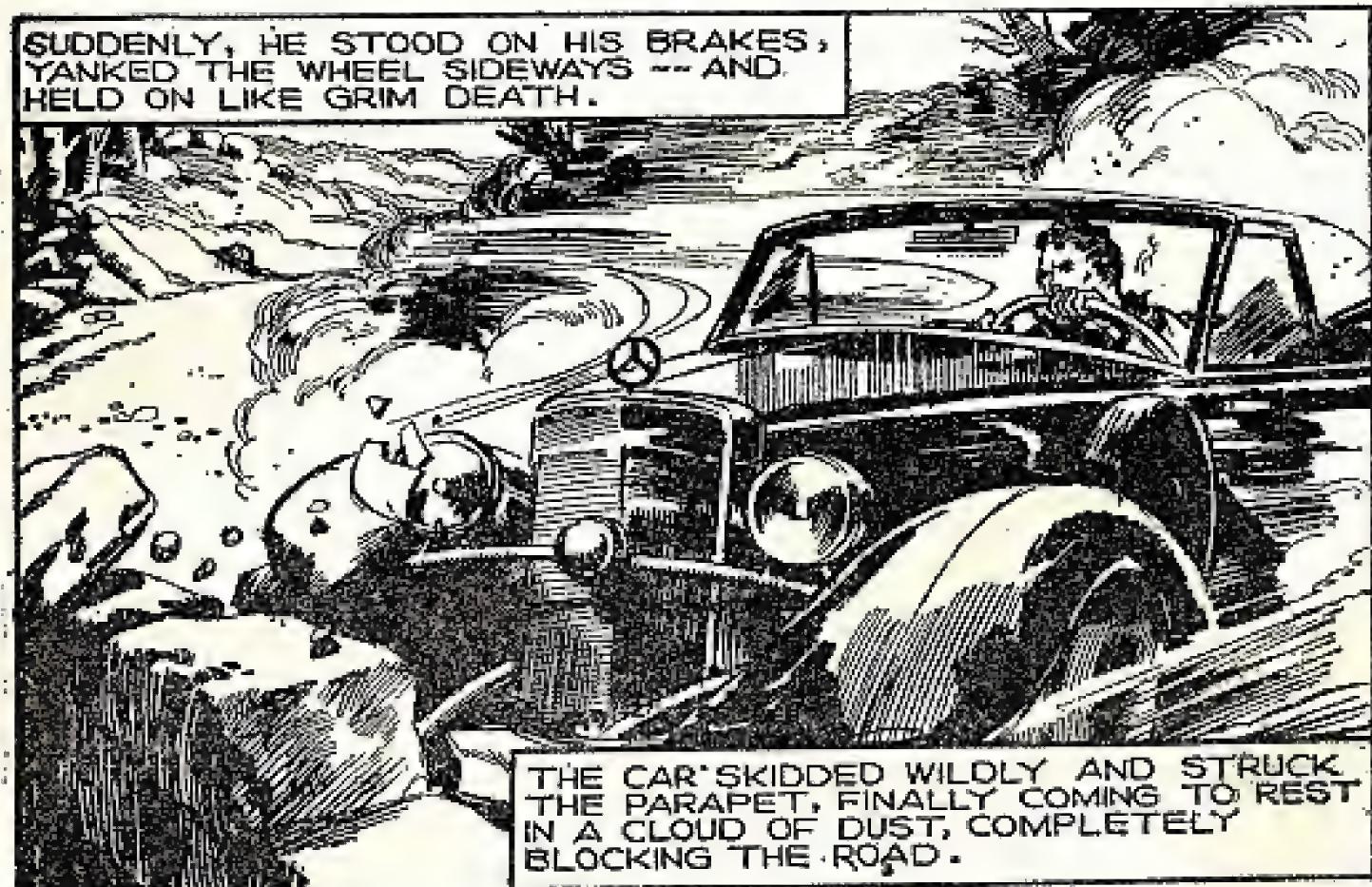
BACK AT THE RADAR BUILDING, TIME WAS SLIPPING BY. PRATNEY WAS ENgrossed WITH HIS INVESTIGATION, Muttering TO HIMSELF



MEANWHILE LACEY WAS HURTLING TOWARDS THE BRIDGE AT SIXTY MILES AN HOUR. HE KNEW HE COULD NEVER THROW OFF HIS PURSUERS. HE MUST STOP -- AND FIGHT IT OUT.



SUDDENLY, HE STOOD ON HIS BRAKES, YANKED THE WHEEL SIDEWAYS -- AND HELD ON LIKE GRIM DEATH.



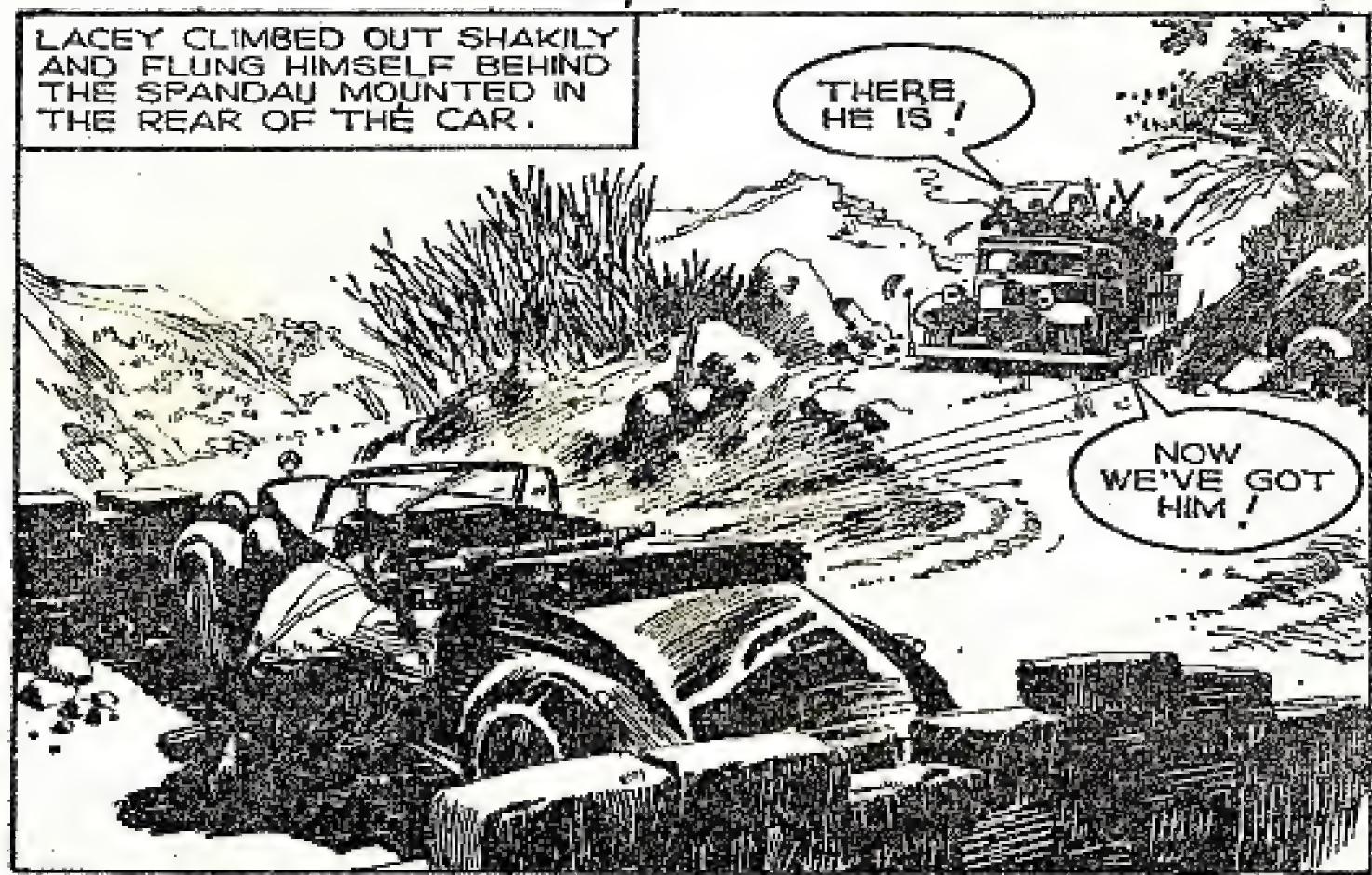
Rapid Fire

51

LACEY CLIMBED OUT SHAKILY AND FLUNG HIMSELF BEHIND THE SPANDAU MOUNTED IN THE REAR OF THE CAR.

THERE, HE IS!

NOW WE'VE GOT HIM!



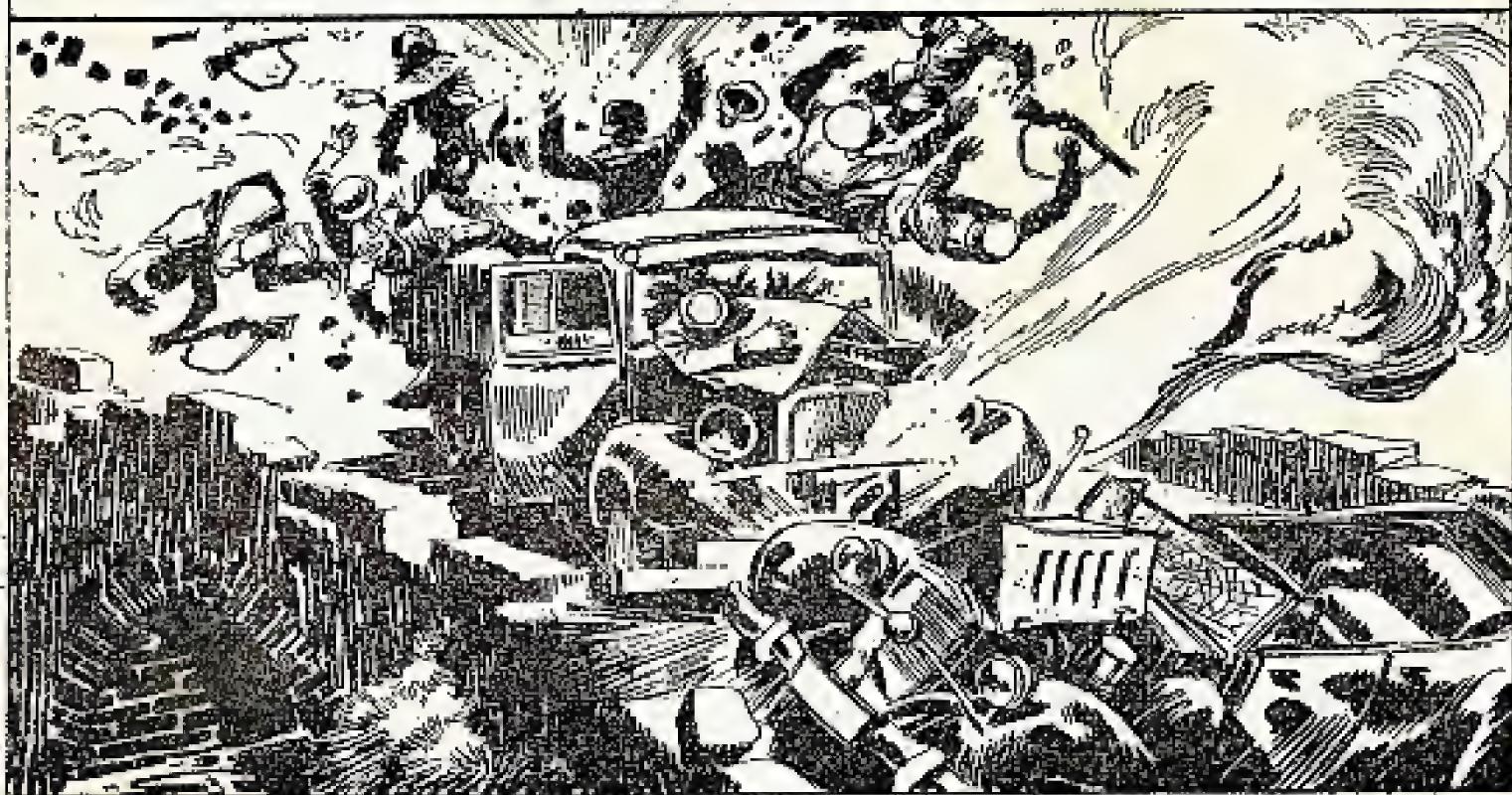
BUT LACEY HAD ONE OF THE GRENADES HE HAD SNATCHED FROM THE GERMAN GUARD. TAKING CAREFUL AIM, HE HURLED IT AT THE LEADING VEHICLE.



THERE WAS PANIC IN THE GERMAN TRUCK AS IT HURTLED OUT OF CONTROL TOWARDS THE STAFF CAR.

Rapid Fire

THEN LACEY TURNED AND RAN WITH THE SPANDAU AND TWO BANDOLIERS OF AMMUNITION. AS HE DID SO, HE FELT A SEARING HOT BLAST ON HIS BACK AS THE CAR BURST INTO FLAME...



NOT UNTIL HE WAS WELL CLEAR OF THE BRIDGE DID LACEY STOP AND TURN AT BAY. HE WOULD HOLD THE BRIDGE -- UNTIL HE WAS OUT OF AMMUNITION -- UNTIL THEY KILLED HIM..

COME AND GET ME, THEN!



AT THE GERMAN RADAR STATION,
MAJOR SPLICE'S FIRST VISIT WAS
TO LACEY'S PLATOON.

CORPORAL TATE :
WHAT'S GOING ON?
WHERE'S SERGEANT
LACEY ?



MAJOR SPLICE'S FACE
SUFFUSED WITH ANGER--
HIS DOUBTS OF THE
SERGEANT HAD
MATERIALISED .

GONE ? THEN IT'S LACEY
WHO HAS STIRRED UP THAT
PANZER DIVISION, THE
HOT-HEADED FOOL !



Rapid Fire

SPLICE REALISED THE EXTREME GRAVITY OF THE SITUATION ~~ AND GAVE HIS ORDERS TO MEET IT.

CORPORAL TATE !
IT'S NO GOOD STAYING HERE WAITING FOR TROUBLE ... TAKE YOUR SECTION TO MEET IT, AS QUICK AS YOU CAN !

LOOK, SIR !
WHAT ABOUT THAT TRUCK ? WE COULD COMMANDER IT !



A FEW SECONDS LATER, A VERY SURPRISED BELGIAN LORRY-DRIVER FOUND HIS CAB SURROUNDED BY KHAKI-CLAD FIGURES.

SORRY, CHUM -- COMMANDOS! DOWN THERE -- JERRIES! SAVVY? WE NEED YOUR TRUCK!



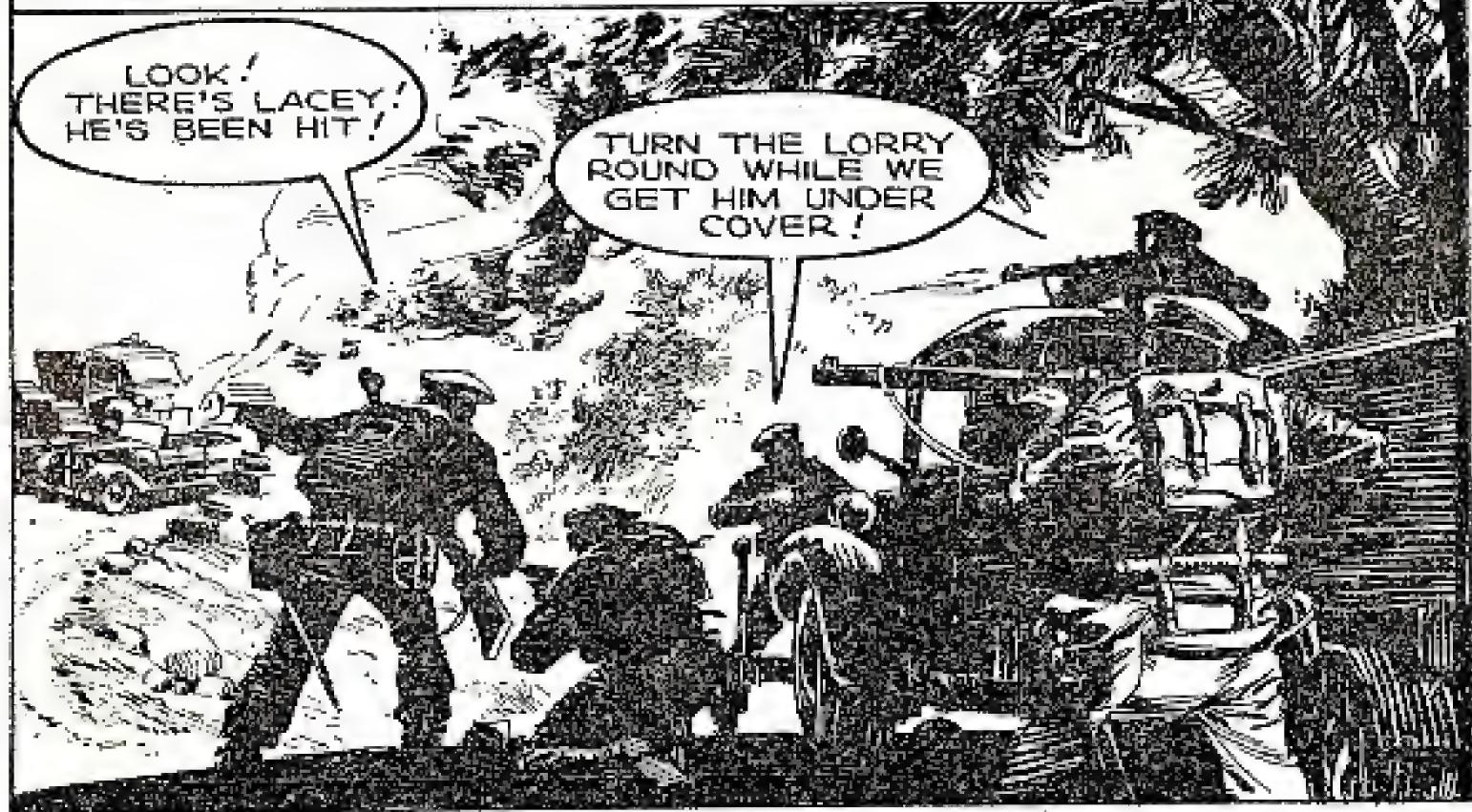
WITHOUT MORE ADDO, THE OLD BELGIAN LORRY, LANDEN WITH COMMANDOS, TURNED ROUND AND SET OFF AT SPEED IN THE OTHER DIRECTION.

BON GUERRE, MESSIEURS!
VIVE ANGLETERRE!
VIVE CHURCHILL!



Rapid Fire

A MILE UP THE ROAD, IT SCREECHED TO A STANDSTILL AMONG THE TREES NEAR THE BRIDGE.



AS TWO OF THE MEN RUSHED DOWN TO DRAG THE WOUNDED SERGEANT TO SAFETY, THE OTHER COMMANDOS MAINTAINED A WITHERING COVERING FIRE.





Rapid Fire

MEANWHILE, PRATNEY HAD FOUND OUT WHAT HE WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT THE GERMAN DETECTION DEVICE ...

THAT'S IT, MAJOR.
I'VE GOT IT SEWN UP NOW.



LACEY'S PARTY WERE FRANTICALLY CHOPPING DOWN TREES TO MAKE AN ADDITIONAL ROADBLOCK WHEN THE CORPORAL SAW THE SIGNAL TO WITHDRAW. THE MEN NEEDED NO ENCOURAGEMENT TO MAKE A RAPID GETAWAY.

WATCH
IT! JERRY
FIGHTER!

TIMBER!
THAT'LL STOP
'EM A BIT
LONGER!

THERE'S
THE SIGNAL,
YOU BLOKES!
COME ON!

X 201

THE MESSERSCHMITT WAS BORING IN FOR ITS ATTACK AS THE ANCIENT TRUCK CLATTERED AWAY ON ITS RETURN JOURNEY. THE COMMANDOS MET THE PLANE WITH A DISCIPLINED, ACCURATE FUSILLADE.



Rapid Fire

THE DRIVER YANKED AT THE WHEEL AND TOOK A CORNER AT BREAKNECK SPEED. THE GERMAN PILOT OVERSHOT AND HIMSELF BECAME A TARGET ...



AT THAT VERY MOMENT, THE LAST OF THE PROFESSOR'S PARTY WERE HURRIEDLY LEAVING THE HOUSE .

HERE COMES
THE LORRY
NOW !

LOOK OUT,
SIR ! A JERRY
PLANE ... AND IT'S
GOING TO CRASH !



THEY HAD VACATED THE HOUSE IN THE NICK OF TIME. THE ONCOMING PLANE, COMPLETELY OUT OF CONTROL, PLUMMETED LIKE A BALL OF FIRE INTO THE WRECKED BUILDING COMPLETING ITS DESTRUCTION.

PITY, SIR! WE
NEEDN'T HAVE
BOthered TO
SMASH IT UP,
AFTER ALL.



THE LORRY BRAKED TO A HALT CLOSE BY AND THE COMMANDOS TUMBLED DOWN FROM ALL SIDES, TWO OF THEM CARRYING THE WOUNDED LACEY. ITS OWNER WAS THERE TO MEET THEM, GRINNING ALL OVER HIS FACE.

SPITFIRES
COMING OVER!
YIPEEE-E-E!



Rapid Fire

WITH SPITFIRES CIRCLING PROTECTIVELY OVER THEIR HEADS, THE COMMANDOS SCRAMBLED DOWN TO THEIR BOATS WHERE THE CREWS WERE READY AND WAITING.



AS THEY SPED HOME, SERGEANT LACEY LOOKED UP AT HIS OFFICER APOLOGETICALLY. HE WAS CHASTENED IN MIND AS WELL AS IN BODY.



THE RAID SOON PROVED TO HAVE BEEN A TREMENDOUS SUCCESS,
IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE...

NOT ONLY HAVE WE LEARNED THAT
WE SMASHED UP THE ONLY GERMAN
V.H.F. DETECTION STATION BUT
SOMETHING ELSE, AND IT CONCERN'S US
ALL. LISTEN TO HITLER'S LATEST
ORDER ... SLAUGHTER TO THE LAST
MAN ALL THOSE WHO TAKE PART IN
COMMANDO ENGAGEMENTS.' IT
MEANS THE GERMANS ARE REALLY
AFRAID OF US, LADS!



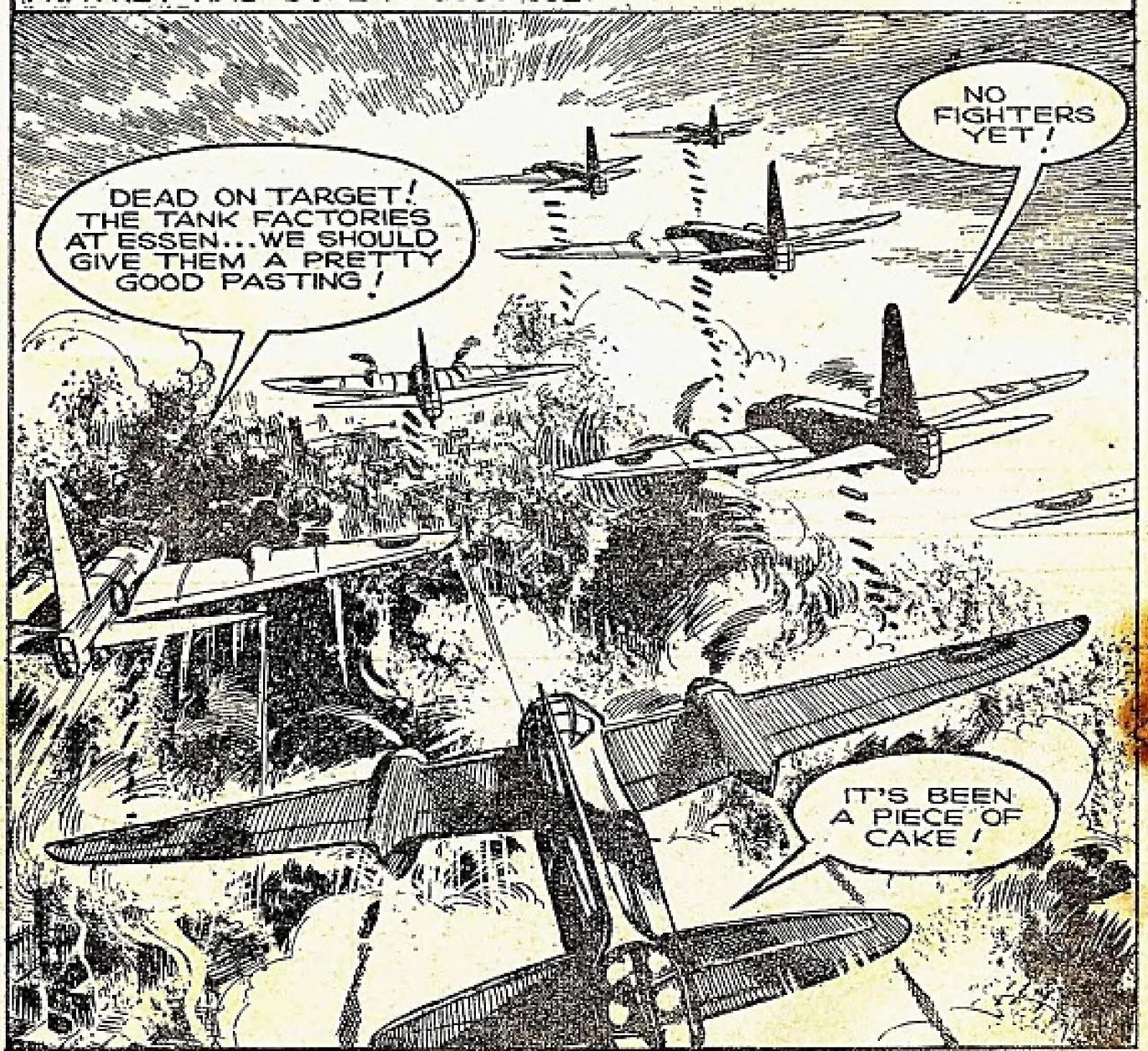
AND THE COMMANDOS WERE NOT THE ONLY ONES TO FEEL PROUD
OF THAT DAY'S WORK. PROFESSOR PRATNEY HAD WONDERFUL
NEWS TO TELL THE HIGH COMMAND OF THE R.A.F.

GENTLEMEN, WE HAVE
SOLVED YOUR LITTLE
PROBLEM, AFTER THAT MOST
INTERESTING DAY'S OUTING.
WE CAN NOW JAM ANY
SIMILAR DEVICE ...



Rapid Fire

FROM THEN ON, THERE WAS NO MORE SERIOUS TROUBLE WITH BRITISH BOMBERS BEING INTERCEPTED BY GERMAN FIGHTERS ON THEIR WAY TO THE RUHR. THE COMMANDOS AND PROFESSOR PRATNEY HAD DONE A GOOD JOB.



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5/2/62

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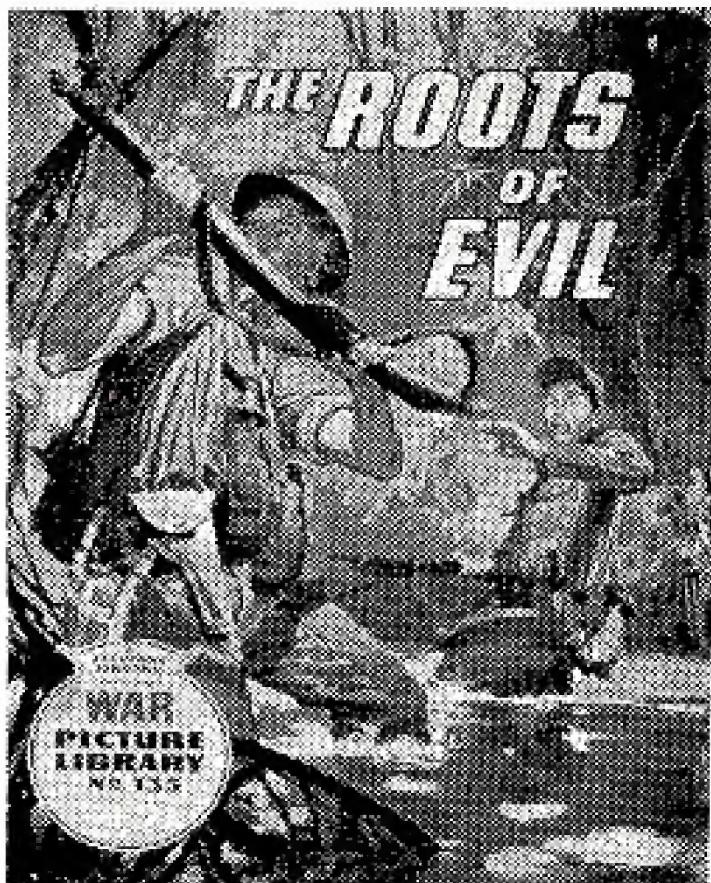
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